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plans: application procedures and requirements; contract terms; procedures for termination of contracts; reporting by Part D plans. For purposes of this subpart, Medicare Advantage (MA) organizations offering Part D plans follow the requirements of part 422 of this chapter for MA organizations, except in cases where the requirements for the qualified prescription drug coverage involve additional requirements.

§ 423.501 Definitions

For purposes of this subpart, the following definitions apply:

Business transaction means any of the following kinds of transactions:

- (1) Sale, exchange, or lease of property.
- (2) Loan of money or extension of credit.
- (3) Goods, services, or facilities furnished for a monetary consideration, including management services, but not including—
- (i) Salaries paid to employees for services performed in the normal course of their employment; or
- (ii) Health services furnished to the Part D plan sponsor's enrollees by pharmacies and other providers, by Part D plan sponsor staff, medical groups, or independent practice associations, or by any combination of those entities.

Downstream entity means any party that enters into a written arrangement, acceptable to CMS, below the level of the arrangement between a Part D plan sponsor (or applicant) and a first tier entity. These written arrangements continue down to the level of the ultimate provider of both health and administrative services.

First tier entity means any party that enters into a written arrangement, acceptable to CMS, with a Part D plan sponsor or applicant to provide administrative services or health care services for a Medicare eligible individual under Part D.

Party in interest means the following:

- (1) Any director, officer, partner, or employee responsible for management or administration of a Part D plan sponsor.
- (2) Any person who is directly or indirectly the beneficial owner of more than 5 percent of the organization's eq-

uity; or the beneficial owner of a mortgage, deed of trust, note, or other interest secured by and valuing more than 5 percent of the organization.

- (3) In the case of a PDP sponsor organized as a nonprofit corporation, an incorporator or member of the corporation under applicable State corporation law
- (4) Any entity in which a person specified in paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of this definition—
- (i) Is an officer, director, or partner; or
- (ii) Has the kind of interest described in paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of this definition.
- (5) Any person that directly or indirectly controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the Part D plan sponsor.
- (6) Any spouse, child, or parent of an individual specified in paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of this definition.

Related entity means any entity that is related to the PDP sponsor by common ownership or control and—

- (1) Performs some of the Part D plan sponsor's management functions under contract or delegation;
- (2) Furnishes services to Medicare enrollees under an oral or written agreement: or
- (3) Leases real property or sells materials to the Part D plan sponsor at a cost of more than \$2,500 during a contract period.

Significant business transaction means any business transaction or series of transactions of the kind specified in the above definition of business transaction that, during any fiscal year of the Part D plan sponsor, have a total value that exceeds \$25,000 or 5 percent of the PDP sponsor's total operating expenses, whichever is less.

§ 423.502 Application requirements.

- (a) *Scope*. This section sets forth application requirements for an entity that seeks a determination from CMS that it is qualified to contract as a sponsor of a Part D plan.
- (b) Completion of a notice of intent to apply. (1) An organization submitting an application under this section for a particular contract year must first submit a completed Notice of Intent to Apply by the date established by CMS.